

In the Claims

Claims 1 – 13 (Cancelled)

14. (New) A method of amplifying activity of therapeutic vaccines comprising administering an effective amount of a composition comprising a compound that depletes or inhibits B lymphocytes to a patient sufficient to amplify an immune reaction of T cytotoxic lymphocytes.

15. (New) The method according to claim 14, wherein the B lymphocytes are naïve B lymphocytes.

16. (New) The method according to claim 14, wherein the immune reaction of the T cytotoxic lymphocytes is excited by a vaccination.

17. (New) The method according to claim 16, wherein the vaccination is a vaccination against a tumor and/or against a chronic viral, parasitic or intracellular germ infection.

18. (New) The method according to claim 16, wherein the vaccination is a therapeutic vaccination.

19. (New) The method according to claim 14, wherein the compound that depletes or inactivates the B lymphocytes is a monoclonal or polyclonal antibody or a Fab fragment of an antibody.

20. (New) The method according to claim 19, wherein the antibody or the Fab fragment of the antibody is directed against transmembrane antigen CD20 of the pre-B or mature B lymphocytes.

21. (New) The method according to claim 19, wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

22. (New) The method according to claim 19, wherein the antibody is a murine/human chimeric antibody obtained by genetic engineering.

23. (New) The method according to claim 14, wherein the composition is administered prior to and/or concomitant with and/or subsequent to a vaccination against a tumor and/or against a chronic viral, parasitic or intracellular germ infection.

24. (New) The method according to claim 23, wherein the vaccination is a therapeutic vaccination.

25. (New) The method according to claim 14, wherein the composition is administered to augment specific T cell response to a therapeutic vaccine comprising an inactivated human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).

26. (New) The method according to claim 25, wherein the depleting compound is a monoclonal antibody directed against transmembrane antigen CD20 of pre-B or mature B lymphocytes.